



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# The Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem Team - Invasive Species Committee

The Great Lakes are threatened by numerous aquatic and terrestrial invasive fish, plants, and invertebrates. These species can affect ecology, economics, aesthetics, and recreational opportunities throughout the basin. Invasive species that are on their way to, or are already in the Great Lakes basin include:

### Fish:

- Round Goby (*est*)
- Eurasian Ruffe (*est*)
- Sea Lamprey (*est*)
- Asian Carp (*thr*)

### Aquatic and Terrestrial Plants:

- Purple Loosestrife (*est*)
- Common Reed (*est*)
- Eurasian Watermilfoil (*est*)

### Invertebrates:

- Zebra/Quagga Mussels (*est*)
- Spiny Waterflea (*est*)
- Fishhook Waterflea (*est*)
- Rusty Crayfish (*est*)

*est* – established in the Great Lakes

*thr* – threatening the Great Lakes



**STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!**  
Prevent the transport of nuisance species.  
Clean all recreational equipment.  
[www.ProtectYourWaters.net](http://www.ProtectYourWaters.net)



USFWS

*Asian carp are threatening to enter the Great Lakes.*



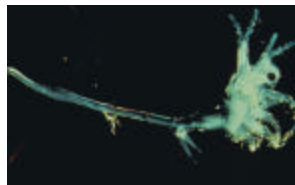
G. Cholwek

*Ruffe were introduced to Lake Superior and are slowly expanding.*



NOAA - GLERL

*Zebra and quagga mussels have caused major economic and biological damage throughout the Great Lakes.*



USFWS

*Spiny and fishhook waterfleas are competing with native plankton.*



K. Holland

*Purple loosestrife has infested many pristine wetland areas in the Great Lakes.*

The Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem Team (GLBET) Invasive Species Committee works on a basin-wide level to address these and other invasive species issues. The production and distribution of outreach and educational materials is a key component of prevention, and will continue to be a strong focus of the invasive species committee.

Identifying invasive species priorities and collaboration with critical stakeholders across the Great Lakes are two other major focuses of the committee.

Securing unique funding opportunities remains an important aspect to ensure the support of these and future projects.

### For More Information:

Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem Team Website

<http://Greatlakes.fws.gov>

ANS Task Force Website

<http://www.anstaskforce.gov>

Great Lakes Panel on Aquatic Nuisance Species Website

<http://www.glc.org/ans/panel.html>